aseptic packaging machines. 24 of these machines have been installed and 7 have been alotted. The total capacity of the 31 Tetra Brick machines is 95000 Packs per hour whlie capacty of 16 Tetra Pack machines is 57600 Packs per hour. Tetra Brick machines are considered technologically superior to Tetra Pack machines.

Entries of Foreign Companies into Food Processing Industries of India

1228. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of April 2, 1989 stating that a rush is on among foreign companies to enter India's food processing sector;

(b) whether Government have made any study about the impact of food processing industries on the millions of small vegetable and fruit growers and petty vendors;

(c) whether food processing by big companies has a possibility of throwing out millions of poor self-employed people from their livelihood; and

(d) if so, what measures Government are contemplating to protect the interests of poor and the self-employed peoples?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The growth of food processing industries in the fruit and vegetable sector is aimed towards reducing the large wastages that currently occur in these sectors, providing increased employment opportunities in the rural areas and adding to the rural incomes. Government have no information that such food processing industries have resulted in self-employed people being thrown out of their occupations.

Assistance for Supply of drinking water in villages of Madhya Pradesh

1229. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages and Towns in Madhya Pradesh that were affected by water scarcity in 1987-88;

(b) the total amount of the central assistance made available to State Government for the purpose;

(c) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has asked for additional funds; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) During drought of 1987 the State Government reported that 19,780 villages and 315 towns in Madhya Pradesh were affected by water scarcity.

(b) The Government of India had approved followig ceilings of expediture for rural and urban drinking water supply arrangements in the drought affected areas of the State:

(Rs. in Crores)

	Ceilings of expenditure approved 1987-88	1988-89 (April-June 1988)
Rural Areas	7.54	3.54
Urban Areas	3.66	1.62